

October

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Magic Lantern Society **NEWS** **2012**



This Issue is known to be haunted, CHECK IT OUT!



Check Out These Halloween Slides

The Pilgrim's Progress Panorama

By Terry Borton

In 1996, Tom Hardiman, then Assistant Curator of the Dyer Museum in Saco, Maine got a nasty assignment—to clean out the museum's basement. In a back corner he found a couple of huge roles of painted cloth. "Old stage drops," the curator said. "Chuck 'em."

But they didn't look like stage drops to Tom. He dragged one out to the parking lot and unrolled about 70 feet. Seventy feet of continuous painting, and he'd barely begun the roll! This certainly didn't look like a stage drop, but the Curator took a look, and once again said to toss it.

Luckily Tom demurred, held on to the painting, and, with the help of trustee Peter Morelli and others eventually figured out that their stage drop was the long-lost panorama of Pilgrim's Progress, one of the very few extant moving panoramas in the country. The panorama was huge, 8 feet high, 800 feet long. And it was unique. The designs for it has not been created by the usual stage painters, but by some of

America's outstanding artists of the 1850s—Edward Harrison May, Joseph Kyle, Frederick Church, F. O. C. Darley.

The panorama had been a huge success at its opening, and toured for many years, but eventually ran out of gas in Saco, where it passed through several hands, only to be lost—in plain sight—for 100 years in the basement of the museum. After its discovery, a major effort was launched to restore it, to create a full-size digital duplicate, and to present it again to the public.



Volunteers thread the replica panorama onto its track during the performance.

MLS members Terry and Debbie Borton, and Suzanne Wray were part of one of the presentations. (Member Erkki Huhtamo, author of the forthcoming authoritative book on the moving panorama, *Illusions in Motion*, was also scheduled to speak, but there was some unfortunate screw-up. He was sorely missed.) Terry narrated the presentation of the replica panorama, and then did a reprise with Beale's magic-lantern slide set of Pilgrim's Progress. (A lot of demons to kill off in one night!) Suzanne gave a presentation on the mill girls who may have watched panoramas in Saco, followed by a presentation by Terry on the panorama's influence on Beale.

Altogether, it was a fascinating excursion for magic-lantern types. Not our usual thing, but certainly the panorama is a very closely allied medium, and a fascinating one. If you'd like to see the panorama performed, watch an excellent video at www.sacomuseum.org/panorama.



The original Pilgrim's Progress panorama displayed at a mill near Saco.

Magic Lantern Slide Images Available on Manny Items



Items Like

Mouse Pads

Coasters

Hats

Aprons

T-Shirts

iPhone 4 Covers

Post Cards

Greeting Cards

Ties

Key Chain

Fridge Magnets

Scenes from the Past Magic Lantern Slide - Penn Station New York City 1910 - Coasters
by 3dRose through Amazon

3dRose
Scenes from the Past Magic Lantern Slide - New York City Parade WWI 1918 - Caps

Vintage Magic Lantern Slide Cricket Players Sepia Shirts

Search: Magic Lantern Slide on Yahoo Shopping, Amazon or Zazzle

Another Slide Image Product

Small (12 x 12 3/16 inches) poster advertising a Halloween sale by Elmer E. Smith, Front St. Druggist, in Douglas, Alaska about 1910. This was reproduced from a lantern slide found in an abandoned warehouse near Douglas in the early sixties. Historical information is printed at the bottom of the poster. \$9.99 postpaid.



<http://www.alaskatokens.com/pages/akcollectibles.html>

The Second Biennial Magic Lantern Society Australasian Convention

From Elizabeth Hartrick on behalf of the MLSAC

The Second Biennial Magic Lantern Society Australasian Convention is now open for registrations!

Our wonderfully diverse program, which is attached, includes Wilhelm Busch's comical sketches, the Limelight Brigade, New Zealand tourism, technical demonstrations and contemporary experimental work.

You can register online through the website and we're asking for a contribution of \$35 for the Convention (which will cover both days). Payment can be made by direct debit to our bank account – details on the website – with online credit card facility coming soon.

If you or anyone you know would like to attend the Family Day on Sunday only, we're asking for \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families.

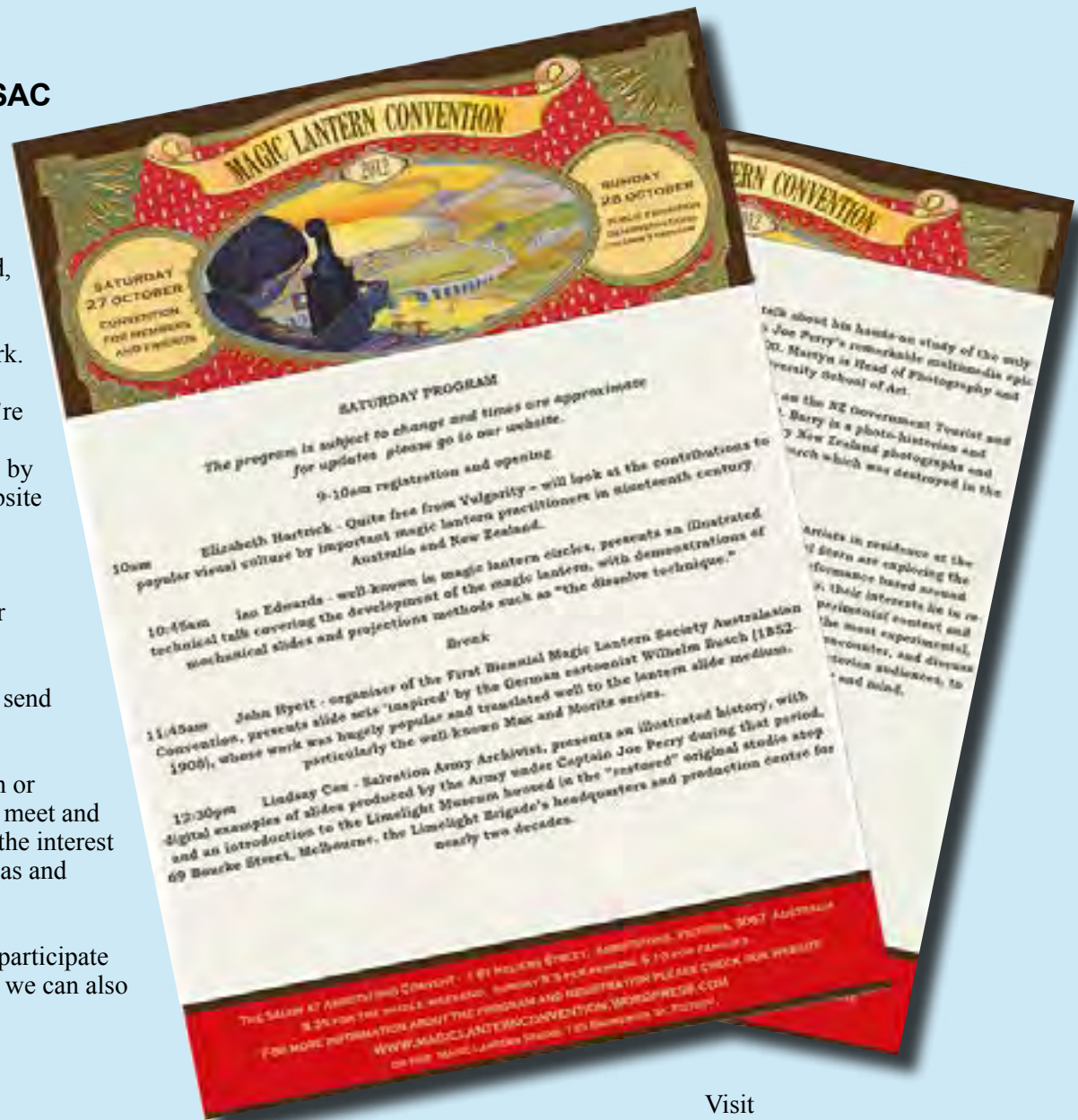
The Family Day program is still developing – we'll send out details in the coming weeks.

We would be delighted if you are able to attend both or either days. It's a rare and wonderful opportunity to meet and mingle with like-minded enthusiasts. Judging from the interest we've already had, there are sure to be plenty of ideas and synergies.

We are still happy to hear from you if you'd like to participate in the program on either day. And if there is interest we can also have a buy/sell/swap table.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards



Visit

<http://magiclanternconvention.wordpress.com/>
for more information and registration

The Camera Obscura

Long before projectors or lightboxes or even camera lucidas—there was the Camera Obscura. The Camera Obscura by Ancient Magic Art Tools' image simplifies and enriches color while adding depth—enhancing the way an artist sees. This historical device was likely used by Vermeer, Canaletto, Guardi and others. And today it's a collectible and still a practical art aid. Great for any classroom teaching the history of cameras, film or art.

Buy and learn more: www.AncientMagicArtTools.com

1-888-958-2432



<http://ancientmagicarttools.com/CameraObscura.php>

Cinéma Préhistorique

A torch illuminates the walls of a cave, somewhere in southern France or northern Spain, and a prehistoric spectator sees an array of the animals of the Ice Age world: mammoth, horses, deer, aurochs, bison, rhinos, and, less often, predators. The awe of the spectator would only be increased if the animals appeared to move. And some of them did, according to Marc Azéma, a filmmaker who studies cave art for examples of storytelling and of the representation of movement.

In a recent paper, Azéma, of the Université de Toulouse-Le Mirail, notes that Paleolithic artists used the principle of retinal persistence—the tendency of the eye to momentarily hold an image after it has been superseded. They did this by superimposing multiple versions of body parts, for example in the drawing of an eight-legged bison from Chauvet Cave (up to 32,000 years old) and the heads of horses on cave walls at Lascaux (18,000 years old), or by juxtaposing images, as in three successive pictures of a running lion on a bone from La Vache cave (12,000 to 14,000 years old). The optical illusions would be heightened, Azéma suggests, in the flickering light of a grease lamp.

Coauthor Florent Rivère describes a more kinetic method prehistoric people fell upon for representing movement. Bone disks, with a hole in the middle, show an animal engraved in two different positions on the front and back when rapidly flipped back and forth; they give the effect of a creature in motion. Rivère reconstructed one such device, a 15,000-year-old one-and-a-quarter-inch disk from Laugerie-Basse that has pictures of a deer or chamois. He threaded a tendon string through the center perforation and connected it to two twisted leather thongs. As in a similar children's toy, the thaumatrope, the disk rapidly twirls when the strings are pulled. Here the trick showed the deer alternately on the hoof and recumbent.

Animation, the authors maintain, emerged in Paleolithic times. (Antiquity)

—Judy Rice



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From Kentwood Wells

This is a fascinating piece on a 15,000-year-old Paleolithic thaumatrope, an optical toy previously considered to be a 19th century invention. This is about as old as you can get in media archaeology. This comes from the June 2012 issue of Natural History, based on an original paper in the journal Antiquity.

Additional Sites About Prehistoric Art



http://dannyboston.blogspot.com/2012_06_03_archive.html



<http://antiquity.ac.uk/ant/086/ant0860316.htm>

If you're
Click

Brave
HERE



Advertising Lantern Slide

Click on Slide



Children's
Lantern Slide

Responses to Inquiry

From Ron Easterday

Trevor, perhaps the attached will be of interest and/or help to to you.

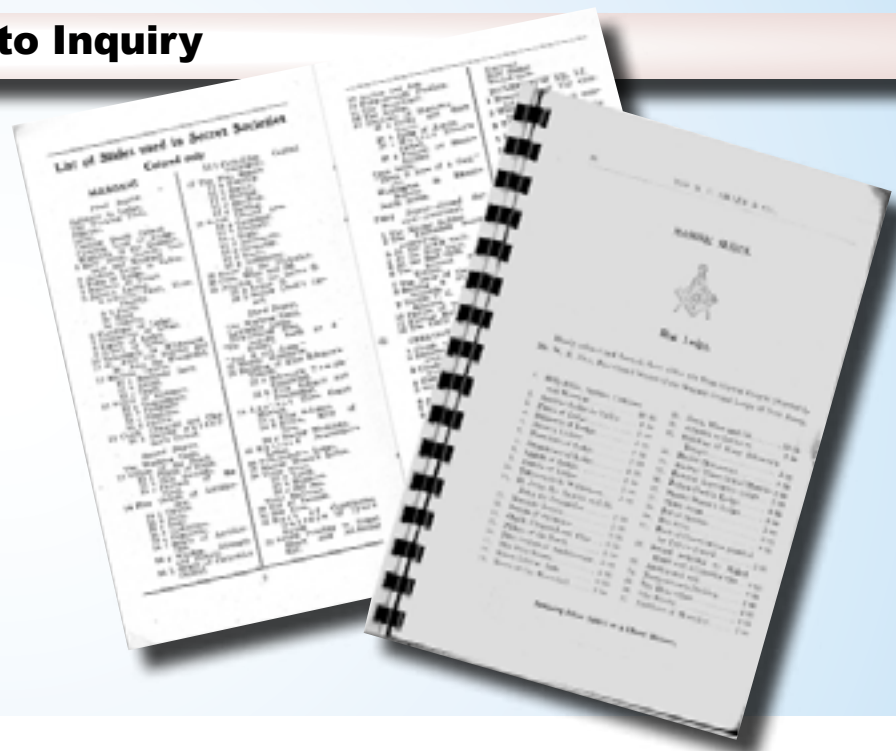
One is from a M.C. Lilley catalog form 1899 listing masonic and eastern star slides. I have other MC Lilley slides and 2 of their lanterns. I know a little about the company from research over the years. The slides in this catalog were all 4x7 wood mounts.

Second is a list from an undated and un-identified booklet, again listing masonic and eastern star slides.

Hope this is of help.

Best regards,

Ron Easterday



In further reply to the “so called unusual lantern buy at Thompson”:

From Jack Judson



It is not so unusual, since there are at least 2 other examples, one of which has been on exhibit here for a long time. The other one perhaps went with the Naylor collection sale??

The brass label on top of our exhibit, is similarly engraved.

The “side flaps”/folding shelf attachments, are not present on either example known to me.

A.T. Thompson obtained lenses from a fellow importer from Boston, B and F French Company. Lenses were some times marked B F and Co. (Benjamin French); oddly, they were made by

Darlot of France. And many of that maker were also used for cameras.. A number of other makers of photo/lantern equipment used such lenses variously marked.

The original apparatus has a rear top hinged wooden piece that allows the chimney to protrude up.

Hope this helps some.

Jack Judson

D.C. Antique Photo Show Announces Collaboration with Daguerreian Society

From Tom Rall



The Daguerreian Society, one of the country's foremost photo historical organizations, will hold a meeting next year in conjunction with the annual spring D.C. Antique Photo Show, announced Diverse Markets Management (DMM), a D.C. firm in its fifth year of managing the show which will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2013.

The Daguerreian Society participation follows the March 2012 expansion of the show to include a second sales room devoted

to postcard exhibitors. The combined 30th annual D.C. Antique Photo and Postcard Shows will be held 8:30 AM to 4 PM, Sunday, March 10, 2013, at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 N. Ft. Myer Dr., Arlington, VA 22209. "The Daguerreian Society will have a meal, brief business meeting and mini-auction" at the hotel on Saturday March 9, Society Vice President Sally Anyan wrote recently in the society's quarterly publication. The auction will be headed by Greg French, a long time photo show exhibitor and a society board member.

Anyan said the meeting would be "a mini-event for those unable to go to Paris and Bry-sur-Marne" in France where the society will hold its twenty-fifth annual meeting later in 2013 to celebrate Louis Daguerre, the French inventor of one of the first photographic processes, named after him, the daguerreotype.

"Daguerreotype dealers have always been a significant presence in the photos show and we're expecting even better representation this year with the collaboration," said DMM Show Manager Tom Rall.

"I expect we'll have to expand the show again," Rall continued, noting that additional space was reserved following the show expansion in March. "The combined shows generated significant reported sales so we're also expecting more postcard exhibitors too."



The DC Antique Photo and Postcard Shows open with a 8:30 AM \$25 preview admission and continue 10 AM to 4 PM with a \$10 public admission. The hotel is walking distance from Georgetown and only one block from the Rosslyn station on Metro's orange and blue lines.

For more information visit the show web site AntiquePhotoShow.com or contact Rall, 703-534-8220; Postcard Show Promoter Jeff Bradfield, 540-476-2666; or the Daguerreian Society, 412-221-0306. Society information [HERE](#).

As Seen On



From Shel Izen



A big Difference In Prices and Quality of Slides!

MITCHAM FAIR Fairground Rides 12 Magic Lantern Slides Circus Gypsy Caravan Boxer

Ended:

Sep 21, 2012 12:02:52 PDT

Winning bid: GBP 1,550.00

Approximately US \$2,519.53 [21 bids]

Shipping: GBP 20.00 Royal Mail

SUPERB Complete set of magic lantern slides depicting Mitcham Fair c1900-1910.. Twelve in total and all in beautiful condition. No cracks or damage to the glass and the paper edging all intact. Each is titled 'A Visit to Mitcham Fair' and 'The Columbia Lantern Slide' and numbered 1-12. Each also has an individual title on the top edge. Standard size measuring 3 1/4 inches square. I had trouble photographing them and they are actually a grey tone rather than sepia as they appear in my pictures. They are also pin sharp whereas my pictures are a little blurred.

From Terry Borton

1880'S MAGIC LANTERN SLIDE CHILDRENS SPORTS SEE SCAN POOR SHAPE

1880'S magic lantern slide childrens sports see scan poor shape as the pic shows it is broken still neat piece that is 130 years old

Ended:

Sep 23, 2012 19:09:46 PDT

Starting bid: US \$1.00 [0 bids]

Price: US \$50.00

Shipping: \$3.50 Economy Shipping



As Seen On



From Kentwood Wells

Yet another variation on weird ways to display magic lanterns



Antique Magic Lantern Body w/ Rare Lions Head Feet Camera Projector Convex Glass



Maybe even a rare chimney!

From Shel Izen

**ANTIQUE VICTORIAN PRO
BASEBALL BROADSIDE
POSTER MAGIC LANTERN
SLIDE PHOTO RARE**

Price: US \$1,499.99 Buy It Now

Shipping:
\$4.99 Standard Shipping | See details

Item location:
Oak Lawn, IL, United States

An original glass slide measuring approximately 3 1/4 x 4 inches. Very good condition black paper matte and minor blemish in the photo.



Very pricey with an imaginative title description.

Magic Lantern Show

From Ruth Scheuing

John Atkin and I will be presenting early Vancouver Magic Lantern slides from Michael Lawlor's collection at Science World IMAX theatre on

**Thursday, Oct. 4
7:30PM**

This is a repeat of a show that was part of Doxa festival 2011. John Atkin is a well known local historian.

<http://vancouverisawesome.com/2011/06/08/vancouver-was-awesome-the-magic-lantern-view/>

This will be followed by viewing of 'the Rocky Mountain Express' a new IMAX movie about the CPR <http://www.scienceworld.ca/omnimax>

Michael's prints from CPR images are currently exhibited at Science World .

There may be a more formal press release later, but I wanted to get the info out now.

Best

Ruth



The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) has long been recognized for generating hundreds of thousands of documentary photographs. It also produced photographic magic lantern slides that celebrated the Dominion of Canada as the "land of milk and honey." The slides had two key functions: to promote tourism and to attract immigrants to Canada through public slide shows given in other countries. The hand-coloured slides were also sold abroad as educational aids.

The images in this exhibition were printed by Vancouver artist Michael Lawlor, who spent several years laboriously scanning, cleaning and digitally touching up the slides. His project marries image conservation with the democratization of Canada's pictorial archive, resulting in greater public accessibility to our past. Lawlor's prints have all been produced digitally using only slides with CPR labels. The 3-1/4X4-inch slides were scanned, processed with imaging software, then printed onto matte paper.

Learn more

<http://www.scienceworld.ca/art-displays>

A Big Thank You to the following:

**Terry Borton
Lindsay Cox
Ron Easterday
Elizabeth Hartrick
Shel Izen
Jack Judson
Tom Rall
Ruth Scheuing
Kentwood D. Wells**

for contributing to this months issue.

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

E-mail Larry



See the Magic Lantern Gazette for published original research articles.
Current issues published as part of society membership.
All back issues of the Gazette up through 2011 can now be accessed online in PDF format at:

<http://library.sdsu.edu/scua/online-materials/magic-lantern-pub>

Welcome New Members

deArmond, Paul

1344 Humbolt St
Bellingham, WA 98225-4932
360-599-6710

paulfster@gmail.com

Interests: Lanterns: 4x3-1/4, 35mm, Rickenbacker Phantasmagoria; Slides: Some antique, some DIY; Literature: optics, stage lighting, physics; Kinetic Devices: various kaleidoscope and effects purpose built. Gives Shows.

Gulas, Chesney

202 Timber Run Dr.
Canfield, OH 44406-8676
(206) 906-2578
Antiques

gulas@mindspring.com

Interests: Lanterns; Slides: Historical children's; Literature
"I purchased her first magic lantern 30 years ago and have only recently allowed myself to indulge in this interest again."



*Coming soon to a location
near you...*

**Group NW Meeting
Sunday Noon
Oct 30, 2012**

Larry Cederbloms
3701 Braeburn DR NE
Tacoma, WA 98422

**We will be setting up our 2013 meeting
schedule!**

Please bring salad or dessert for pot luck.

Remember those show and tells.

Please RSVP Larry

Email: designerlc@comcast.net

Call: 253-952-9370

Map or Directions?

Email Larry